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CAMERON DIAZ GETS 'PLAYED' IN THE OTHER WOMAN PAGE 10

metro AR USE METRO AR TO SEE A CLIP OF HOLLYWOOD'S NEWEST CHEATERS

Jared Frank is set to cash in on the video he took of himself while in Peru. YOUTUBE SCREENSHOT

Making a silk purse out of a boot to the head

Silver lining. Peculiar incident immortalized on YouTube may make money for Regina man

A Regina man is hoping his 15 minutes of fame for getting kicked in the head by a train conductor will make him a little money, too.

Jared Frank's video of his strange encounter on Peru's Machu Picchu went viral on YouTube last week, amassing more than 24 million hits as of Tuesday night.

He says he picked one and signed a deal that helps him monetize the video any time it is broadcast by a television broadcaster, and YouTube itself pays him for views.

Frank says he and friends were hiking up a mountain in March to get to the ancient Incan site when he decided to shoot a video of himself with a train going by in the background — possibly closer than he anticipated.

As the train sped by, the whistle blasted and a conductor booted him in the head, leaving Frank reeling but uninjured.

"Wow, that guy kicked me in the head," a shocked Frank blurts on the video.

Many viewers had less than complimentary comments for Frank, but he's taking it all in stride.

"You can put up a video of saving a baby puppy and you're going to get negative comments," he says. "It doesn't matter what you do on the Internet. I knew what to expect as far as the comments, but as far as the sharing and how far the video got, I absolutely did not expect that."

Frank isn't quite sure how much money he has made from the video yet. YouTube will update him on that at the end of May and he has to wait 60 days before his licensing company will get the money from television companies.

But he says he doesn't want to get his hopes up.

"People probably already are seeing me in a negative light as the idiot who got kicked in the head, so I don't want to be the idiot who thought he was going to make millions of dollars and ended up with a $400 paycheque," he says.

As for all of the negative comments, Frank says they'll all be worth it if the video pays for his trip to Peru.

THE CANADIAN PRESS, CJME

Gone viral

24M

Jared Frank's video had amassed more than 24 million hits on YouTube as of Tuesday night.

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*Based on AUTODATA industry data as of February 2014 comparing sedans in the IHS Automotive: Polk non-luxury compact car segment.

Lewvan Drive

Woman dead, man hurt after rollover

An 18-year-old woman has died and a 21-year-old man has been sent to hospital after their vehicle rolled over and hit an overpass at Lewvan Drive early Tuesday.

A Mercedes was traveling westbound on Saskatchewan Drive and turning north on Lewvan Drive when the driver lost control of the vehicle on a curve, police said.

The car hit the curb and rolled on the grass before stopping at a pillar supporting a railway overpass on the east side of Lewvan.

The pair were trapped in the vehicle for a short time before being freed. Both were taken to hospital where the woman died of her injuries.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

METRO

Not considered suspicious

High school students make grisly discovery at rundown barn

Three Saskatoon high school students taking pictures for a photography class got more than they bargained for when they made a disturbing discovery.

The three were snapping shots of an old barn off Highway 16 outside the city when they found a dead body.

Payton Ostrom says she and her two friends were walking toward the rundown building to take pictures inside when they saw something suspicious.

She says they ran to her car and drove up to the barn door to get another look.

The three students from Evan Hardy Collegiate then called the police.

RCMP say the death isn't suspicious and that weather was a factor.

"We drove up to it with my car, so we could see it, and then we honked to see if it was moving or breathing ... and nothing happened," Ostrom said.

"It was kind of freaky."

CKOM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Proposal for larger oil tank to go before city committee

Councillor concerned.
Mayor says project would begin 'sooner rather than later'

MARCO VIGLIOTTI
marco.vigliotti@metronews.ca

A city council committee is slated to debate a proposal to build a new storage tank capable of holding 250,000 barrels of oil at the Federated Co-operatives Limited-owned refinery complex in Regina's north industrial area.

The tank would be built on the site of an older unit only capable of handling 50,000 barrels. It would be demolished and decommissioned.

"It's not surprising that (a new tank) is needed," said Mayor Michael Fougere, pointing to the city's recent growth.

Coun. Shawn Fraser, though, said he wants to hear how the new tank would impact air quality, a surrounding aquifer and safety considerations before considering supporting the project.

"Does changing this infrastructure (pose) any risk to the aquifer? Is it actually a good thing because they're putting a new container in the ground (and) hopefully new technology is less risky?" he asked. "That would be my big question."

Fraser also wants to know if the new tank would affect the safety of nearby residents.

Fougere, however, noted that the refinery complex is located in a heavy industrial area far from residential dwellings.

Before making its way to city council, Co-op's plan will need to win approval from Regina's planning commission, which is slated to debate the motion Wednesday.

The provincial Environment Ministry also needs to sign off on the project before the city issues a development permit.

Fougere anticipates the project would likely begin "sooner rather than later" if approved by council.

A council committee will consider a proposal to build a new oil-storage tank at the sprawling Federated Co-operatives Limited-owned refinery in Regina's north industrial area. METRO FILE

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A third of adults suffered child abuse: Study

The data. It cannot prove cause and effect, it can only point to possible links

A new study says one in three adult Canadians suffered some form of child abuse in their past, adding this abuse is associated with a higher risk of mental-health disorders later in life.

The lead author of the study says it provides the first national look at the prevalence of child abuse experienced by Canadian adults.

Tracie Afifi of the University of Manitoba says previous estimates were based on a nearly 25-year-old study from Ontario and more recent data from Quebec.

Quoted

"We found strong associations between child abuse and mental conditions."

Researchers of the study

The study is published today in the Canadian Medical Association Journal.

The authors studied data collected from more than 23,000 adults 18 and older who took part in Statistic Canada's 2012 Canadian Community Health Survey.

Respondents were asked questions about whether they were hit or subjected to other forms of physical or sexual abuse in childhood, or whether they were exposed to violence between the adults in their homes.

Afifi says the questions didn't ask "Were you abused?" because studies have shown that some people who have been abused don't characterize their experiences as abuse.

Instead, the questions asked whether respondents were slapped on the face or head, spanked with a hard object, pushed, grabbed, shoved or had something thrown at them to hurt them. For both those questions, respondents were asked to say yes only if the behaviour had happened a minimum of three times.

Another question asked if respondents were kicked, bit, punched, choked, burned or physically attacked at least once.

Sexual abuse questions were designed to determine whether respondents were forced into unwanted sexual activity. And the questions related to having witnessed intimate partner violence asked whether as children they had seen their parents, stepparents or guardians hit each other or other adults in the home three or more times.

One in three adults reported experiences that met the criteria for at least one of the types of abuse, with physical abuse the most common of the three; 26 per cent of respondents said they had experienced physical abuse.

Ten per cent of respondents said they had experienced sexual abuse and nearly eight per cent witnessed intimate partner violence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Record breaking swimmer glides for Earth awareness

World-record breaking swimmer Ben Lecomte swims in the Strait of Georgia display at the Vancouver Aquarium on Tuesday. Lecomte visited the aquarium to raise awareness for Earth Day and the importance of protecting our waterways. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maple Leaf Gardens.
Sex abuser pleads guilty to 100 charges

The man at the centre of the Maple Leaf Gardens sex abuse scandal pleaded guilty Tuesday to 100 charges involving 18 underage victims.

Gordon Stuckless, 65, entered the plea in a Toronto courtroom in relation to offences that took place decades ago. The charges include indecent assault, sexual assault and gross indecency and span from 1965 to 1985.

Stuckless pleaded not guilty to several charges, including sexual assault with a weapon and buggery, and his lawyer Ari Goldkind said a trial on those charges is expected to get underway in the next couple of weeks.

Crown attorney Kelly Beale is expected to request a dangerous offender assessment for Stuckless, but Goldkind said his client, who's on a sex offender registry, continues his chemical castration therapy and has been living "a very law-abiding life." THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Heartbleed hacker.
'Curiosity got the better of him': Michael Calce

A 19-year-old man accused of siphoning some 900 social insurance numbers from the Canada Revenue Agency was likely motivated by curiosity, not malice, says one of the country's most notorious hackers.

"We love to throw around the term 'hacker,' but I don't think he's a hacker," said Michael Calce. "I think he's a computer science geek who heard about a critical bug and wanted to poke around. His curiosity got the better of him."

Last week, the RCMP charged Stephen Arthuro Solis-Reyes of London, Ont., with one count of unauthorized use of a computer and one count of mischief. The Western University student is believed to have used the Heartbleed bug — a vulnerability in the OpenSSL software used to secure countless websites — to extract personal information from CRA servers. The media has already dubbed him "the Heartbleed hacker."

LUKE SIMCOE/METRO IN TORONTO

Kidnapped mayor resurfaces, resigns

Eastern Ukraine. After apparent abduction by pro-Russian forces, mayor now claims she supports insurgents

Mayor Nelya Shtepa walks outside a police station in the town of Slovyansk, Ukraine, in this April 12 photo. Insurgents have seized government buildings in eastern Ukraine towns over the past week and a half. EFREM LUKATSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When armed men seized the police station in the eastern Ukrainian city of Slovyansk, mayor Nelya Shtepa declared she was on their side. She changed her story a few days later. Then she disappeared — the victim of an apparent abduction by the man who now lays claim to her job.

On Tuesday, she resurfaced, expressing support once again for the pro-Russia insurgents — but possibly no longer as mayor.

The mayoral mess reflects the anger, confusion and lawlessness that have gripped eastern Ukraine as armed groups opposed to the country's interim government seize police stations and government buildings.

In town after town in the beleaguered east, it's hard to tell who's in control. Since the unrest began, pro-Russia insurgents have adopted a strategy of electing so-called people's leaders: mayors and regional governors who claim to represent the people's will, despite their questionable background and skills for the job.

The man who now claims to be mayor says Shtepa was under the care of his comrades in the pro-Russia forces. But Vyacheslav Ponomarev is himself a dubious figure: No one seems to know his past and Ponomarev refuses to give any clarification.

On Tuesday, a Russian news site ran a video interview with Shtepa — in what the site said was her former office — in which she praises the insurgents as men with "strong souls" and thanks Russian President Vladimir Putin for annexing Crimea. The report also showed what it said was a resignation letter that Shtepa willingly signed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LGBT rights. Lawsuit filed challenging Georgia's same-sex marriage ban

A gay rights group Tuesday filed a federal lawsuit in Atlanta challenging the state of Georgia's constitutional ban on same-sex marriages.

Lambda Legal filed the lawsuit on behalf of seven people.

"The history of the United States has been defined by the ability of each succeeding generation to recognize that social, economic, political, religious, and historical norms do not define our unalienable rights," the lawsuit says. "In time, the American ideal of equality and liberty demanded that our government move past cultural and majority oppressions, however long-standing, in order to secure and fulfil the individual rights of all citizens."

The suit is one of many legal challenges to such bans throughout the United States. The issue will ultimately be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court last year found that the 1996 Defence of Marriage Act, which forbade the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriage, improperly deprived gay couples of due process. That ruling came as polls showed that a majority of Americans now support gay marriage.

Georgia voters in 2004 overwhelmingly approved a constitutional ban on gay marriage. The state constitution prohibits same-sex marriage and says that Georgia will recognize only the union of a man and a woman as marriage. It says same-sex marriages performed in other states will not be not legally recognized.

Shelton Stroman is one of the plaintiffs who filed the suit, along with his partner, Chris Inniss. They are a suburban Atlanta couple that has been together for about 13 years and has adopted a son.

"We just want to make sure that other families like ours are treated just like everyone else's family," Stroman said in a telephone interview. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"It's really hurtful and offensive that the state of Georgia is refusing to treat our families fairly."

Shelton Stroman, one of the plaintiffs in a lawsuit challenging Georgia's ban on same-sex marriage.

Moscow

Putin's main critic could be jailed

A Moscow judge on Tuesday left open the possibility of jailing President Vladimir Putin's main critic for years, a sign of Putin's increasingly hard-line rule against opponents.

Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny was fined $8,400 on Tuesday for slandering a lawmaker. His second trial starts Thursday, and prosecutors who previously secured his house arrest are widely expected to ask for jail for him pending trial, with Tuesday's verdict making him a recidivist. If there's a guilty verdict at that trial, he could get a prison term. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tit-for-tat

Russia expels Canadian diplomat

Russia has expelled a first secretary at the Canadian embassy in Moscow in retaliation for the earlier expulsion of a Russian military attache from Ottawa.

A Canadian government source, not authorized to speak on the record, says the first secretary of the immigration section of the Canadian embassy in Moscow has been ordered out of Russia. The move comes after Canada quietly expelled an assistant Russian defence attache earlier this month.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has called Russia's actions in Ukraine a threat to world peace. THE CANADIAN PRESS

India

2 Chinese sailors found dead

An Indian port official says two Chinese sailors were found dead from inhaling coal fumes in the cargo hold of their Chinese bulk carrier.

A senior official at the Kolkata Port Trust in the eastern state of West Bengal says another two crew members were being treated Tuesday at a Kolkata hospital. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak with media.

The official said the victims had reportedly collapsed immediately after entering the cargo hold filled with coal and accumulated methane gas. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A humpback whale outside of Hartley Bay along the Great Bear Rainforest, B.C. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feds eye upgrading humpbacks' status

Species At Risk Act. Reclassification would remove Ottawa's legal obligation to protect the animal's habitat

In the midst of the heated debate over oil tankers off the coast of British Columbia, the federal environment minister has proposed changing the status of North Pacific humpback whales from threatened to "special concern."

The whales have played a starring role in the campaign against oil pipelines and opponents accused the federal government Tuesday of removing a hurdle to the proposed multibillion-dollar Northern Gateway pipeline.

"What we're seeing is that the government is stripping the humpbacks of legal protection at the very time that the Enbridge pipeline and tankers project is posing a serious threat to their recovery and survival," said Caitlyn Vernon, of Sierra Club BC.

But the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, or COSEWIC, an independent group of scientists responsible for assessments, first recommended the improvement in status three years ago.

A federal official said the group was even asked to reconsider, to ensure the science was sound. Last fall, the recommendation again was to make the change.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Numbers up

18,000

After being hunted to near extinction in the early 20th century, biologists estimate the North Pacific population now consists of more than 18,000 humpback whales.

Miami

Prof beaten up over bad grade?

Police are investigating the beating of a Miami Dade College music professor to see whether it was ordered by a student angry over a bad grade. Marc Magellan, 31, was attacked last week inside a parking garage.

The assailant called out "Professor Marc" and when Magellan turned around, the assailant began punching him and smashing his head on the concrete floor, leaving him with a broken nose and hand and other injuries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spain. Village with 'Kill Jews' as part of its name to vote on change

The tiny Spanish village of Castrillo Matajudios, whose second name means "Kill Jews," will hold a referendum next month to decide if it should change the name that offends outsiders and embarrasses some residents, its mayor said Tuesday.

The village's 56 registered voters will be asked on May 25 whether they want to keep the name or change it to the similar, but non-offensive name the town once had, Mayor Lorenzo Rodriguez Perez said.

Historical studies show the town's original name was Castrillo Motajudios. The second name of that translates to "Jews Hill" and dates back to 1035 when 66 Jews were killed in a nearby town and those expelled settled on the hill.

Although Jews were killed in the area, researchers believe the town got its current name from Jewish residents who converted to Catholicism and wanted to convince Spaniards they opposed Jews, Rodriguez said. Others think it might have simply come from a slip of the pen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

De Grood set to undergo psychiatric evaluation

A courtroom sketch of Matthew de Grood, the accused in the recent Calgary stabbing. JANICE FLETCHER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Bizarre' case. Calgary man accused of stabbing five victims at a party faces charges of first-degree murder

The father of a young man stabbed to death at a house party says his boy was the poster child for the kind of son every parent wants.

Bruce Rathwell told mourners at his son Zackariah's funeral Tuesday that the young man was athletic, artistic, loved music and spent years as a Boy Scout.

A display at the front of the Calgary chapel was a testament to the 21-year-old's interests and accomplishments. It included three guitars, a Boy Scouts uniform, rugby jersey, hockey equipment and skates.

Rathwell, a promising musician with the band Zackariah and the Prophets, was stabbed to death along with four others last week at a get-together to celebrate the end of classes.

Another party-goer, 22-year-old Matthew de Grood, is charged with five counts of first-degree murder. He appeared in court Tuesday and was ordered to undergo a 30-day assessment to determine whether he is mentally fit to stand trial.

De Grood, the son of a senior Calgary police officer, was wearing blue coveralls when he appeared in court earlier in the day via closed-circuit television.

He could be seen leaning against a wall and touching his face, with cuts and scrapes from when the canine unit took him down during his arrest.

The accused will return to court May 22. He will continue to be held at the Southern Alberta Forensic Psychiatry Centre, where he's been since his arrest. The Crown requested the assessment on the recommendation of a doctor who has been dealing with de Grood.

"The case has been adjourned for a period of 30 days to allow a psychiatrist to assess whether or not the accused is fit to stand trial," Crown prosecutor Stephanie Brown told reporters.

De Grood's lawyer, Allan Fay, said he's not ruling out a defence of not criminally responsible. "I'd be foolish to overlook any possibility, especially in a case that on its face is as bizarre as this," Fay said.

"We've never seen anything like it in Calgary, and one can't help but look at the case and consider what we know so far and how strange this whole thing is." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Google challenges non-profits

$25,000 on the line. Tech giant asking groups to propose ways they could use Google Glass in their work — and is offering to help turn their idea into reality

Google has a challenge for U.S. non-profits.

On Tuesday, the tech giant asked non-profit groups to propose ideas for how to use the Web-connected eyewear Google Glass in their work. Five charities that propose the best ideas by May 20 will get a free pair of the glasses, a trip to Google for training and a $25,000 grant to help make their project a reality.

Giving Through Glass

For more information, visit g.co/givingthroughglass

Google has already been testing Glass with non-profits in their field work. Conservationists at the Washington-based World Wildlife Fund have been using Google Glass for hands-free field research. In Nepal, a research officer has been using Google Glass to track, photograph and monitor rhinos to help protect them from poaching in areas that are inaccessible by vehicles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mickey D's feels the squeeze

McDonald's is fighting to hold on to customers in the U.S. The world's biggest burger chain said sales at established locations fell 1.7 per cent in the first three months of the year. After a decade of consistent growth, sales also declined last year as McDonald's struggled to roll out new menu items.

PHOTO: CATE GILLON/GETTY IMAGES; STORY: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NADbank. Metro Canada sees its weekly readership climb by 3%, study shows

More Canadians than ever are making Metro part of their daily lives — millions of you, actually.

In all, 4.2 million people read Metro each day as a way to stay connected and informed about their city and the world. The 2013 NADbank readership study also showed that Metro is the fastest-growing newspaper in Canada's largest cities across various platforms, including print, digital paper, website and news app.

"Metro Canada increased readership on a weekly basis by three per cent to more than 4 million readers — a first for us — which demonstrates how our unique content packages resonate against Metropolitans, our target market," said Bill McDonald, President of Metro English Canada. METRO

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ANOTHER TYPE OF FOODIE WEIGHS IN

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

There are foodies, those uncompromising gourmets who have "an ardent or refined interest in food and alcoholic beverages," according to the dictionary.

Then there are the rest of us, who also have an ardent interest in food and alcoholic beverages, but there's nothing refined about it.

This column is for you. Business Insider has done one of those unscientific readers' choice surveys and on the strength of 2,200 responses, has determined the Best Fast Food in America. We can take that to include the rest of North America, because most of these epicurean delights do not require a run to the border.

They may require a run to the bathroom, if you insist on testing the winners, but that's another story.

So, apart from the fact that Tim Hortons barely makes the list, the rest of it is as commonplace in Canada as potholes in springtime.

What's really great about this is that everyone can play. In fact, participating is probably as impossible to resist as McDonald's fries.

The No. 1 burger is Wendy's with its characteristic square, never frozen, burger patty. I don't know about you, but a square burger patty ain't natural. Nonetheless, Dave's Hot 'N' Juicy outdistanced the Burger King Whopper and McDonald's Big Mac by a healthy margin (34 per cent to 26 per cent and 24 per cent respectively). Or should I say unhealthy?

Best pizza honours go to Papa John's, who squeaked by Pizza Hut and Domino's (34 per cent to 31 per cent and 29 per cent). Little Caesars was a distant fourth. Whatever. Does it get there in under half an hour?

No surprise here: McDonald's had the best fries by a wide margin (57 per cent), which roughly equals the percentage of North Americans raised on them from infancy.

Best fried chicken is KFC at 36 per cent. I haven't ordered a bucket for 20 years, but that doesn't stop me from going: "Maybe I should just stop and get a bucket" every time I go past the local Colonel's dispensary, which is just about every day. This stuff gets into your blood ... in more ways than one.

Subway is a double winner, with best sub (37 per cent) and healthiest choice (also 37 per cent), which is hardly a distinction considering the competition. About the only thing you can order at a fast food joint that's actually good for you is a glass of water.

Finally, there's coffee, the universal solvent. At 49 per cent, Starbucks wins hands down. The next closest was Dunkin' Donuts at 27 per cent. This is the only place on the poll where Tim Hortons appeared, with eight per cent, just behind McDonald's. Coffee seems like the last thing you'd order at McDonald's, but despite (or perhaps because of) those expectations, it's never as bad as you think.

And that's pretty much the last word. Or maybe five little last words: "You want fries with that?"

ZOOM

Bee my pollinator

Bamboo bundles are used here to create bee tunnels for nesting that hang in a magnolia tree near Langley, Wash. DEAN FOSDICK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Depleting numbers threaten food supply

Bees are pulling a disappearing act. Honeybees are vanishing from their hives. Bumblebee numbers have crashed so radically that some species are believed extinct. Even native solitary bees are in decline. Food supplies dependent upon pollinators are threatened.

There is no single explanation for what is causing the pollinator losses, said Matt O'Neal, an associate professor of entomology at Iowa State University. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"Common species are disappearing at a dramatic rate ... I worry in particular about pollinator species with limited ranges and that have unique habitat requirements that are being threatened. A lot of species are dropping out of the landscape."

Mace Vaughan, pollinator program director with The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation in Portland, Ore.

How gardeners can help

- Plant flowers and create green spaces, especially in urban areas. Leave patches of bare soil, rocks and brush piles for use by ground-dwelling native bees.
- Install bee hotels around the yard by drilling holes in wood blocks and creating bamboo bundles.
- Eliminate or change pesticide usage.

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MetroTube

When parachuting on skis gets tiring

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

On the same day I learned about the existence of an adrenaline-junkie hobby called speed riding — which is pretty much hurtling through the air while attached to a small parachute and a pair of skis — I also learned that it's not nearly adrenalized enough for one rider.

So what does your average daredevil do when the passion for boring, bland and familiar speed riding is extinguished. Why, you speed ride/grind your way down a chairlift cable. Naturally.
(Via Valentin Delluc on Vimeo)

VIMEO SCREENGRAB

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SCENE

See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app to see a clip from The Other Woman

Turning up the cheat on trysts

Cautionary tales. From 1960's 'dirty' rendezvous at The Apartment to a Fatal Attraction cooking your rabbit, infidelity boils over on film

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Nikolaj Coster-Waldau and Cameron Diaz star in The Other Woman. CONTRIBUTED

In the new movie The Other Woman, Mark King (Game of Thrones's Nikolaj Coster-Waldau) tries to push infidelity to Tiger Woodsian heights by cheating on his wife (Leslie Mann) with multiple mistresses, including Carly and Amber (Cameron Diaz and Kate Upton). "We got played by the same guy," says Carly.

"Getting played" in Hollywood movies dates back further than the invention of the Ashley Madison website.

In 1960, the Jack Lemmon movie The Apartment tackled the subject of adultery. The film, about a lonely insurance company lackey who allows his bosses to use his apartment as a trysting spot in hopes that they will promote him, was a big hit, but also a controversial one. The Saturday Review called it "a dirty fairy tale" and co-star Fred MacMurray says a woman on the street hit him with her purse, taking him to task for making "a dirty, filthy movie."

In 2005's Derailed, Clive Owen stars as a married man who hooks up with Lucinda (Jennifer Aniston) after meeting her on a commuter train. In a hormone-induced rush, they decide to consummate their illicit affair at a seedy hotel, only to be interrupted by a burglar who robs them and sexually assaults Lucinda. Things spiral out of control as the robber blackmails the couple and seems to have an unquenchable thirst for Owen's money.

Derailed is a cautionary tale about staying faithful to your spouse and never, ever renting rooms in sleazy hotels. Part Fatal Attraction, part Hitchcock thriller, the movie stays on track through the set-up of the story, but as soon as the going gets rough the story, well ... derails.

The most famous infidelity movie has to be 1987's Fatal Attraction. It begins with Michael "I'm a married man!" Douglas having a fling with Glenn "I'm not gonna be ignored!" Close. When he tries to break off their affair, she becomes a lesson in why not to cheat on your wife.

The film was a sensation on release, inspiring a number of imitators including The Crush, Single White Female and a spoof called Fatal Instinct, and its most famous clip, the rabbit boiling on the stove, even inspired a phrase in the Urban Dictionary. According to the website, cook your rabbit "refers to the moment when someone goes over the edge in their obsession with another person."

Film's most famed femme fatale

"Men still come up to me and say, 'You scared the [crap] out of me.' Sometimes they say, 'You saved my marriage.'"

Glenn Close in an interview 20 years after Fatal Attraction's release.

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Tim Zickuhr FACEBOOK

Who's the unfairest of them all? Ice road trucker plunders Snow White

As reality star misbehaviour goes, the Duck Dynasty crew are starting to look pretty good about now. At least they leave prostitutes where they found them.

Ice Road Truckers star Tim Zickuhr has no such social graces. According to TMZ, Zickuhr has been charged with an array of crimes after allegedly kidnapping and imprisoning a Las Vegas prostitute named Snow White. Snow White told police that Zickuhr gave her his debit card and told her to withdraw her fee. He then claimed she'd taken out more than agreed. When they met to work out their financial dispute, Snow White says Zickuhr tied her up with backpack straps, locked her in a closet, and punched her and poured cold water on her. Zickuhr then told her to call someone who could bring him the money, but she instead called a police officer.

When the police officer arrived, Zickuhr apparently confessed the whole thing. As a final stroke of elegance, he forced Snow White to exit his apartment through a second story window. Zickuhr was arrested and charged with first-degree kidnapping, extortion, and coercion.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Jay-Z holds Kim and Kanye's wedding at Bey

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

What could go wrong with Kim and Kanye's wedding? They both adore big splashy events, they seem really in love, and they have enough money that no one ever needs to end up sobbing in a strip mall parking lot because they can only afford pink hydrangeas, not fuchsia ones. (I was a bridesmaid a bunch of times.) However, there are some headaches of wedding planning that no amount of money can eliminate, such as guest list drama. Case in point: Will Beyoncé and Jay-Z show up for the ceremony?

Rumour has it that Jay and Bey are planning to skip the nuptials, which will take place in France. According to the Daily Mail, they don't intend it as a snub — they just have no interest in appearing on Keeping Up With the Kardashians, and cameras will be unavoidable (which, given that the show is Kim's whole raison d'etre, does sound a little like a snub).

Jay-Z reportedly plans to make it up to his old pal Kanye in a big way: Since he won't be at the ceremony, not only is he planning a bachelor party for the ages, but he also plans to spend more than $100,000 to rent a yacht for the couple's honeymoon.

Good plan, guys. I have experience with this sort of thing. When my great-aunt couldn't make it to my bat mitzvah she sent me a $20 savings bond, which is sort of the same.

Uma Thurman GETTY IMAGES

Uma ... Arki. Arki ... Uma. Have you kids met each other?

Uma Thurman has reportedly called off her engagement to multimillionaire hedge fund boss Arki Busson, the second time she has done so since the couple began dating in 2007, according to the Daily Mail. "Uma and Arki were due to attend a gala together on April 8, but Uma showed up without her engagement ring or her fiancé. Arki was scheduled to attend, and it seemed clear there was only one reason why he didn't show — because he and Uma are no longer an item," a source says.

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SHOP FOR THE BEST PERKS

The good news for consumers is that the travel rewards industry is very competitive today and, as a result, banks and credit card companies have upped their travel programs and offerings to try to attract more cardholders, says Patrick Sojka, founder of Rewards Canada, an organization that tracks the various cards.

"The biggest trend on the credit card side is the waiving of the first year's annual fee," Sojka says. "So, basically, it's a free trial.

SHUTTERSTOCK

"If you keep the card after one year you will likely be charged the annual fee. However, with the way things are, you may be able to negotiate for a longer free period."

On the credit card side, the big trend is the addition of more benefits.

"Most cards are maxed out on what they can offer in terms of rewards and earning points for air miles," Sojka says. "But look for fabulous travel benefits."

Here is a quick list of what to look for:

• Travel perks such as airport lounge access and concierge services.

• A wide range of insurance benefits including travel emergency medical, trip interruption and cancellation, lost luggage, rental car collision/loss damage and hotel burglary insurance.

• Less blackout periods when you book travel on points. "We know that Canadians want to earn points faster and redeem them often without the aggravation of blackout periods and high fees," says Jennifer Douglas, Scotiabank vice-president of credit cards.

• Different ways to redeem points. Scotiabank experts also point to additional benefits such as gift cards, merchandise charities and investment and credits to redeem from.

• Exclusive hotel programs. Some cards partner with hotels to offer room upgrades and dining and beverage credits. But the more benefits like this, the higher the annual fee in general.

• No redemption deadlines.

SHUTTERSTOCK

FINDING THE BEST VALUE

If you are like most Canadians, you carry a stack of loyalty cards in your wallet. You might have an Air Miles, a Shoppers Optimum, and maybe a Cineplex Scene card. Perhaps a wad of that funny Canadian Tire money is stuffed in there, too.

Loyalty programs have edged into almost every industry, from banking and travel, to entertainment and retail. Repeat card users earn points, discounts and other perks

The Shoppers Drug Mart Optimum card is among the most popular. Some 10 million Canadians carry this card, says Tammy Smitham, vice-president, communications.

Another card — Scene — is quickly gaining attention, too. Now with 5.6 million cardholders, the program is growing "beyond the expectations" of its co-partners, Cineplex and Scotiabank, says Shawn Bloom, Scene general manager.

The idea is to use financial incentives to get customers to build a shopping history with the same store. For example, with an Optimum card, you get 10 points for every dollar spent and can redeem these points on most of the 25,000 in-store products, Smitham says.

With a Scene card, you get 10 per cent off concession purchases and off admission on Tuesdays, and collect 100 points for admission to every adult movie.

"So every 10th movie will be free; it's very good value," Bloom says.

At Canadian Tire, the country's oldest loyalty plan, you get 40 cents in "money" for every $100 spent. Now customers can get their "money" electronically as well as in paper form, giving them "the best of both worlds," says Shawn Stewart, associate vice-president, loyalty.

Increasingly, businesses are teaming up to extend card savings. You can now use Optimum points on fashion and decor items at the Beyond The Rack online store, Smitham says. Scene members can redeem points at Swiss Chalet, Harvey's and other restaurants, and, through the current promotional program with Indigo, earn points by buying certain books that have been or will be made into a movie, Bloom says.

Banks are also getting into the loyalty action. The Royal Bank, for example, has partnered with Shoppers to offer an RBC Optimum MasterCard or debit card that can be used to collect points at retail outlets other than Shoppers across the country.

SHUTTERSTOCK

UNDERSTAND YOUR POINTS PROGRAM

When it comes to belonging to a loyalty program, knowing what you want to do with the points is one way to narrow down what's appropriate for you, says Patrick Sojka, founder of Rewards Canada.

Here are other considerations:

• Be clear about what you want to be rewarded with — air miles, cash back, or merchandise.

• Keep your shopping habits in mind and be strategic. What's most important is that you are loyal to programs so you accumulate points. Plus, "splitting points amongst several cards will delay the time it takes to redemption," Sojka says.

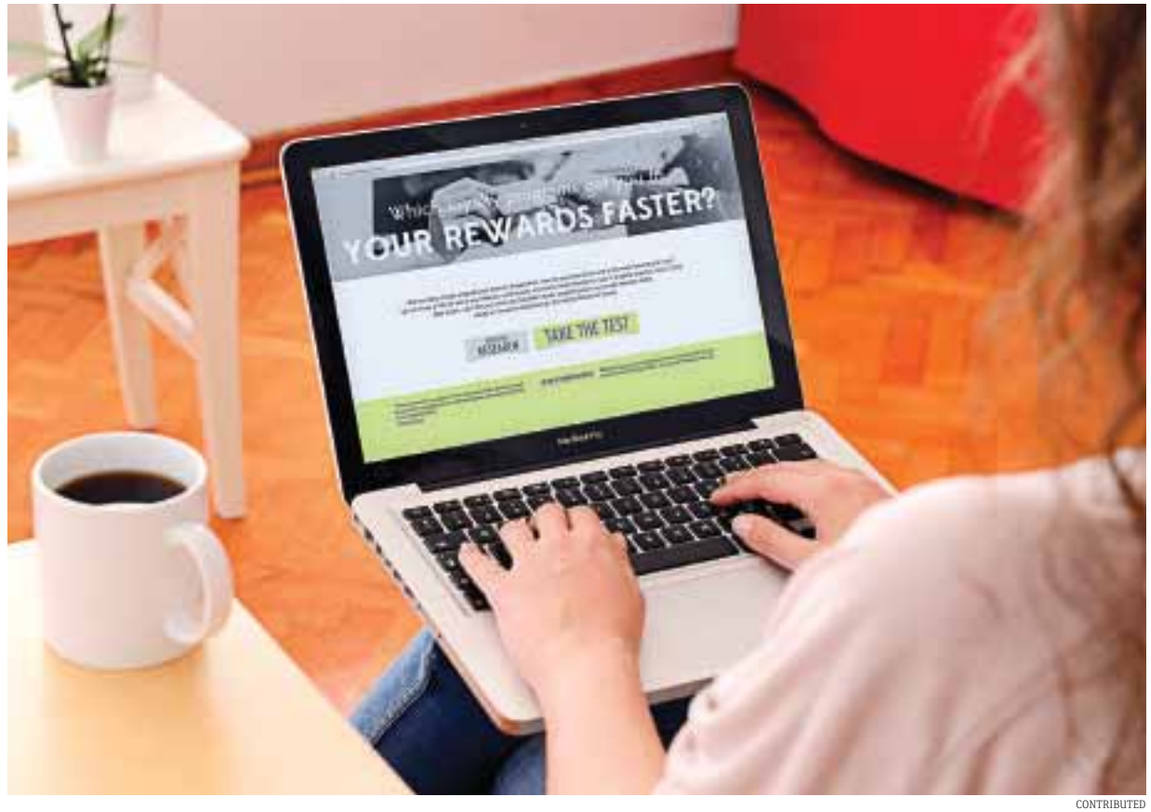
• Be sure you understand exactly how you earn and redeem points on cards including expiring policies for programs that issue miles or points.

• Keep in mind that the more flexible in terms of what the reward is, the lower the rewards rate will be in general.

• Get an Aeroplan or Air Miles card regardless, Sojka says. There are so many places where you can earn these points and so many options for redeeming them (travel, merchandise, gift cards).

FASTER REWARDS

SPRING CLEAN YOUR WALLET AND FIND THE PROGRAM THAT WORKS FOR YOU



CONTRIBUTED

Regularly reassessing loyalty program membership makes sense beyond just reducing the plastic you carry. That's because choosing the right loyalty program for you could get you to the reward you want faster.

Selecting a program from the many options on the market has traditionally been the challenging part.

Luckily, there is a free online tool to help you assess available programs in a way that levels the playing field so you can research and more easily find the program that might have the shortest "time to reward" — compareloyaltyprograms.ca.

Starting with your end goal in mind, decide what reward for which you are looking. Whether you want to earn points or miles for flights, merchandise or cash back, each program offers its own set of advantages.

"Know yourself — and your goals," say Susan Misner and Laura McDonald, founders of Golden Girl Finance, a site offering financial education in a modern, engaging way to encourage everyone to play a more active role in their finances. "Loyalty programs can make up an important part of your overall finances so you'll be rewarded for all of the research you do looking into the right program. Just be smart about where you get your information from — using a tool, such as compareloyaltyprograms.ca, gives you an apples-to-apples look at the most popular programs."

With all of the information out there, it can still be hard to narrow down which programs may be right for you. Focusing on dividend (i.e., how much a point or mile is worth) may not be the best way to decide which loyalty program can help you get to your rewards sooner. Compareloyaltyprograms.ca is powered by research from Environics Research Group and features the top 23 loyalty programs and affiliated credit cards in Canada, including many offerings new to the market this year. By answering a few simple questions on desired rewards (flight, merchandise or cash back) and spending habits (such as the types of stores where you spend the most), the tool suggests programs that may get you to your chosen reward faster.

Once you know what reward you want, it is important to assess how, where and how much you spend each month to understand which programs might benefit you most.

"Spending habits and reward preferences are unique to each household, but comparative tools and resources may not be clear about how they compare different programs," say Misner and McDonald. "With compareloyaltyprograms.ca, consumers can enter their own monthly spending figures to get an accurate assessment of programs based on their own individual personal spending patterns."

SHUTTERSTOCK

LOYALTY PROGRAMS SHOULD SUIT YOUR STYLE

Golden Girl Finance offer tips to help consumers discover their best loyalty program matches:

KNOW WHAT YOU WANT

The best place to start when it comes to assessing whether your current loyalty program is working for you — or deciding which one to sign up for — is what reward for which you are ultimately saving to redeem. Check out compareloyaltyprograms.ca to cross-compare the top loyalty programs in Canada.

THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU SHOP

Research by Environics Research Group has shown that, on average, double-dipping using a base program card matched with an affiliated credit card greatly reduces "time to reward," no matter the reward you are after. The research has also shown that coalition programs, where there are numerous partner stores to earn miles or points at provide faster time to flight rewards, on average.

STAY TUNED-IN TO YOUR PROGRAM

Some rewards programs do a great job of keeping members in the loop with program news via social media or flyers so they can plan their spending to take advantage of offers. Consider using a credit card at partner retailers for your chosen program (double-dipping) and streamlining earning into just one or two key programs.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

The decision is up to you, so spend a bit of time researching to decide for yourself which program is the most rewarding. Be sure to watch out for high annual fees on associated credit cards that can overshadow the benefits of the loyalty program.

Commissioned by COLLOQUY, a LoyaltyOne Research Group, Environics Research Group developed a methodology and online comparison tool that allows consumers to determine which rewards programs get them to the rewards they want as quickly as possible, based on their individual shopping patterns, program features and attributes. COLLOQUY has also provided financial compensation to Golden Girl Finance for promotion of the research and online tool.

LIFE 3

See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app to see a photo tour of Puerto Rico

Looking for sun and fun? Then head to San Juan

Puerto Rico. There's more than just beaches and poolside drinks to enjoy — try heading off the resort for an authentic experience

ANDREW JOHN VIRTUE DOBSON
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Guests to the Casa Bacardi are whisked around on limo golf carts. PHOTOS: ANDREW DOBSON

While standing on your balcony at the San Juan Marriott Resort staring out at the vast Atlantic, you'll find it hard not to be enchanted, romanced and lulled by the ocean's heartbeat.

The crash of surf on sand is hypnotizing.

The Marriott in San Juan offers guests a prestigious beachfront address in the bustling Condado neighbourhood where bronzed bombshells can be found sprawled across golden sand or lazing on lounge chairs by one of the hotel's two turquoise pools.

And while year-round sun and sandy beaches are understandably the biggest draw, you'll find plenty of opportunity for an authentic Puerto Rican adventure via a long list of excursions available at the hotel's always-bustling concierge desk.

In 2013, the hotel updated its 511 rooms and 14 suites, which now offer guests a refreshed Caribbean elegance that caters to the city's cosmopolitan dynamic.

Looking to treat yourself? Shopaholics are spoiled for choice as the hotel is located on tree-lined Avenida Ashford, a hip strip that Gucci, Louis Vuitton and Cartier all like to call home.

After pounding the pavement, relax at Ocean Club Spa where a selection of scrubs, wraps, facials and massage offer rejuvenation.

The hotel's two pools are the perfect spot to spend a lazy afternoon.

Feeling peckish in the afternoon but don't want to leave the pool?

Your best bet is a pina-colada-sloshed lunch at La Isla Beach Bar where crispy coconut shrimp and smoky chicken wings offer serious satiation.

If you're in town on the weekend, be sure to stop by the Red Coral Lounge at night for "Salsa and Sushi," where each evening the kitchen serves up fusion sushi offerings (traditional churrasco, creamy avocado, sweet plantain) while a live band adds a festive energy to the dance floor.

Salsa yourself silly, then quench your thirst while celebrating local flavours with an ice cold bottle of Medalla Light or a classic mojito spiked with Bacardi Oakheart.

Looking to explore Puerto Rico's top attractions?

Start your adventure with a rum-filled afternoon at Casa Bacardi, aptly titled The Cathedral of Rum.

It feels a bit like 'Disney Does a Distillery,' as guests are whisked around the property on Bacardi-bat-embossed limo golf carts.

Discover the beauty of ancient architecture and vibrant natural wonders while first strolling back in time through Spanish colonial Old San Juan.

Then, finish off your trip with a jungle mountain hike of El Yunque Rainforest where there are plenty of tranquil waterfalls and panoramic coastal views that offer perfect photo ops.

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Be assured that this industry offers the same security you'll be selling

Safe in your success.
Five things to know about pursuing work in the insurance industry

MEGHAN GREAVES
TalentEgg.ca

The insurance industry may conjure up images of being confined to a cubicle, but many positions in the field will see you actively engaged in your tasks. ISTOCK

Before you start a career, it's important to find out all the key details you can about the field you're interested in.

While you'll learn a lot hands-on, a little bit of research can go a long way in preparing you for the perks and challenges of a particular career. The following attributes of the insurance industry can help you get started.

It's inclusive

One of the great things about pursuing a career in the insurance industry is that you don't have to have a specific educational background or set of work experiences.

While there are many insurance diploma programs, certifications and specializations that can offer you a distinct advantage, you can hatch a great career in insurance without necessarily having a background in it.

Many top insurance companies assess potential hires based on their knowledge, skills and previous work experience as they relate to current needs. Since insurance is involved in so many different aspects of our lives, that previous knowledge and experience can come from many different areas: cars, business, medicine, the law and infrastructure are all excellent examples.

Employers in insurance recognize that some additional training and education is required to ensure you can excel in your insurance career and to round out your knowledge. Often, the cost for this training will be picked up by your employer.

Insurance is also inclusive from a demographic perspective, with 63 per cent of industry professionals being women, and 14 per cent identifying as a visible minority compared with 17 per cent in the general Canadian labour market.

It's exciting

Many people see working in insurance as a nine-to-five desk job that involves working in isolation.

Nothing could be further from the truth. While many roles do have an element of independence, an insurance career often calls for frequent client interaction, teamwork, networking and professional stewardship. These activities not only provide variety, they also provide a well-rounded set of experiences that can help you find a role or set of responsibilities that match how you like to work.

The roles are highly varied

Besides a range of different responsibilities, opportunities for career specialization abound in insurance.

Whether you are a number cruncher, like working with people, can spot trouble before it happens, or enjoy research and analysis, there is likely a role for you. Job opportunities include: claims representative, underwriter, insurance adviser and more.

TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Learn and grow

Since the insurance industry welcomes candidates from a diverse range of backgrounds, there's a heavy emphasis on training and development, both in terms of onboarding and continual learning.

- Career development programs and trainee programs are popular training formats for insurance companies to offer new hires. These training programs are designed to get you up to speed, whether you're taking your first step in the industry or moving into a more senior role.

jazz
Regina
Regina Jazz Society
Saturday,
April 26th, 2014
Emilie-Claire Barlow
Doors open at 6:00 pm for the Silent Auction
Concert at 8:00 pm | Casino Regina, Show Lounge
Tickets available at the door
Main Floor $30 | Balcony $25
Corporate Tables Available only for RJS members $220(8) | $165(6) | $110(4)
Tickets are available at the Casino Regina Box Office, at the door, www.ticketbreak.com/casinoregina, Bach & Beyond, RJS Board Members

Bursts of sweet, tangy and spicy in every curry-filled bite

This recipe serves four. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CITRUS

Thai Grapefruit Curry.

A hit of heat to marry with fresh grapefruit enhances the curry and rounds out the flavour of the dish

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp (15 ml) canola oil
- 1 shallot, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) Thai green curry paste
- 1 small Thai chili pepper, seeded and sliced
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) grated grapefruit rind
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) ruby red grapefruit juice
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) coconut milk
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) fish sauce
- 1 lb (454 g) large raw shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 tsp (5 ml) cornstarch
- 1 tsp (5 ml) water
- 1 ruby red grapefruit, peeled and segmented
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) chopped fresh cilantro or mint

Love shrimp? I certainly do. With its versatility and fast cooking methods, you can have a quick easy meal.

Always look for shrimp when they're on sale and pick up a couple of bags. They freeze well and are great for a quick stir-fry, on the grill or for a last-minute appetizer. Shrimp is a great protein when you want to think a bit outside the box and try new flavour combinations, and visit different countries while doing it.

This recipe, which I developed for the Florida Department of Citrus, uses a hit of spicy curry to marry with fresh grapefruit, which enhances the curry and rounds out the flavour of the Thai-inspired dish. It is easy to make and sings out with a sweet, tangy, spicy and creamy combo.

FLASH FOOD

From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

1. In a skillet, heat oil over medium heat and cook shallot and garlic for 2 minutes. Stir in curry paste and chili pepper; cook for 1 minute. Add grapefruit rind and juice, coconut milk and fish sauce; bring to a simmer.

2. Add shrimp and cook, stirring for 4 minutes or until firm and cooked through.

3. In a small bowl, whisk together the cornstarch and water. Stir it into the shrimp mixture along with grapefruit segments and cilantro. Spoon Thai Grapefruit Curry over rice to serve.

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Manchester United

Moyes canned

Overwhelmed by the giant task of replacing Alex Ferguson, Britain's greatest ever manager, David Moyes was fired by Manchester United on Tuesday after losing the support of the club's American owners.

He lasted just 10 months.

Exactly a year after winning a record-extending 20th English championship, United dismissed Moyes during a meeting at its training ground in the morning. The news was released in a terse, two-line statement on the club's website — a far cry from the fanfare of Moyes' hiring last summer.

His future was placed in serious doubt, however, after Sunday's lacklustre 2-0 loss at Everton, which ensured that England's biggest club over the last two decades wouldn't be in next season's Champions League. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA playoffs

"I think it's just in the DNA. Everybody don't have it, everybody's not born with it. Can't buy it at Costco or Walgreens. It's in the DNA."

Brooklyn forward Paul Pierce explaining his career-spanning ability to come through in crunch time. Go to metronews.ca to see if Pierce was able to come up big again in Game 2 of the Nets' playoff series against the Raptors on Tuesday night.

Scan the above image to view a gallery of some of Pierce's clutch moments.

C'est la folie! Habs sweep Lightning, move to second round

Montreal Canadiens' Danish centre Lars Eller celebrates with teammates Brian Gionta, left, and Rene Bourque after scoring against the Tampa Bay Lightning during first-period Stanley Cup playoff action in Montreal, Tuesday. The Habs' tight 4-3 victory in Montreal capped off their first-round series sweep against the Lightning. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Concordia's Smith ripe for CFL draft

Top prospects list out. After missing the fall and winter rankings, defensive lineman shoots up to No. 4 pick

Whatever comes

"It doesn't matter what city, what team. I'm going to be happy wherever I go."

Concordia Stingers' defensive lineman Quinn Smith

Quinn Smith's CFL draft stock is on the rise.

The Concordia Stingers defensive lineman was ranked fourth among the CFL scouting bureau's top-15 prospects for May's draft, after missing out on the fall and winter lists.

But the six-foot-two, 305-pound Toronto native raised eyebrows at last month's CFL combine, excelling on both sides of the ball. And that versatility will enhance his chances of being taken early in the draft. The Ottawa Redblacks hold the first pick overall.

"Obviously I felt I should've been on the first two but I'm very happy that my hard work paid off to be quite high on the new list," Smith said during a CFL conference call Tuesday.

Once again Laurent Duvernay-Tardif, McGill's highly rated offensive lineman, topped the rankings. But the six-foot-five medical student is projected as a mid-round NFL draft pick. Where he is taken by an NFL club will directly affect when he's selected in the CFL draft.

David Foucault, Montreal's 300-pound offensive tackle, moved up a spot into No. 2, with Laval offensive lineman Pierre Lavertu dropping to No. 3. St. Francis receiver Devon Bailey also dropped one position behind Smith into No. 5. Manitoba defensive tackle Evan Gill remained at No. 6, ahead of Western defensive lineman Dylan Ainsworth. Manitoba running back Anthony Coombs moved up to No. 8, ahead of Simon Fraser offensive lineman Matthias Goosen and Queen's defensive back Andrew Lue.

Rounding out the top-15 were Laval defensive back Adam Thibault, Simon Fraser linebacker Casey Chin, Montreal defensive lineman David Menard and defensive back Antoine Pruneau, and Western linebacker Beau Landry. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Martin, retiree: 'I'm the only one'

When Kevin Martin decided to retire this year, he thought he'd have plenty of company.

The dean of Canadian curlers — with four national titles, a world championship, both a gold and silver at the Olympics and a record 18 Grand Slams on the World Curling Tour — looked around and saw plenty his age or older holding brooms.

"I thought this year there would be a lot of guys retiring," Martin, 47, said Tuesday. "I thought I would just be one of the many. As it turns out, I'm the only one. There's nobody else, I'm the only guy!"

Instead of retiring, other senior skips have played a game of musical chairs as teams have reformed and players have moved about. And Martin says the desire to secure that Olympic berth is the reason.

Younger teams are looking at skips at or near 50-plus and wondering whether they have what it takes to compete, not just next season but also down the road.

And those skips who have never won that Olympic berth (as Martin did three times, failing to earn a medal in 1992) are reluctant to give up while they think there's still a chance.

Manitoba's Jeff Stoughton, 50, who has parted ways with his former team and formed a new one and Ontario's Glenn Howard, 51, who has seen his squad fragment as well, are cases in point. THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

DRIVE 5

Nothing more than crummy wooden buggies in the beginning, you ran the risk of freezing to death or being randomly tossed overboard. At some point, the no-roof thing actually became pleasurable. Today, it's really about disguising your secret desire for freedom as practical family transportation ... with a few exceptions

Evolution of the convertible

TODD D. BURLAGE
www.wheelbasemedia.com

It's rather fun to watch the roof go up and down, isn't it? Especially the hardtop models. The Mercedes SLK, the Mazda Miata PRHT, the Volkswagen EOS and even the Ferrari 458 Spider are like real-life Transformers. Just push a button: It's that easy.

But on sunny days a modern convertible, with the roof down, will cook your head. Or soak you if you even so much as look at a cloud the wrong way.

Put in that context, it's tough to define, or even understand, the popularity turbulence of the North American convertible in its 85 years on the road.

The automotive anomaly went from a curiosity in the 1930s to a tragic James Dean snapshot of the 1950s to near extinction in the 1970s to resurrection in the 1980s — and everywhere in between along the way.

Demand for the convertible will never reach the levels of the 1950s and 1960s when the giant Lincoln Continental led the list of "Land Yachts" that became standard equipment on North American roadways.

But with convertible classics such as the Chevrolet Camaro and Corvette and the Ford Mustang on the 2015 product list, this topless symbol of summer and a staple of driving freedom remains strong. "Whether it's enjoying a lazy drive on a winding two-lane or cruising to a local drive-in," Rex Roy wrote in a tribute story for Popular Mechanics, "summer and convertibles go together like lemonade and iced tea."

The 2015 Corvette Z06 will be available as a convertible with about 625 horsepower. Often convertibles look odd with the roof up, but this design is superb and the platform doesn't give up any strength. WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

The evolution of the convertible has been dramatic, mainly because automakers and engineers have spent decades chasing design flaws caused from all the moving parts needed to open and close or attach and detach the roof.

In the beginning, all cars were open air because they were nothing more than motorized horse buggies, where design efforts centred on engine performance and reliability, not on creature comforts like a proper roof and side glass or a heating system that could keep the glass from fogging up in a fully enclosed vehicle.

The demands for improved safety and shelter led Cadillac founder Henry Leland to introduce the fully closed body design in 1905. Leland's basic ideas gained traction while engineers assigned to the development of convertible vehicles continued to battle design demons like leaks, drafts, noise and the painful consumer details of removing and reattaching the stubborn and fragile cloth roof contraption.

By 1925, the closed-cabin vehicle controlled 90 per cent of the market, essentially cutting out the open-air era, but not deterring an underground push for a true "convertible" that would balance the freedom of openness with the comfort of enclosure.

The convertible needed a breakthrough, and it got one in 1939 when Plymouth introduced the first power-controlled top. The convenience of the power top was a brief boon, but the fruits of those improvements would have to simmer as automobile production in North America was all but halted for six years during the Second World War from 1939-'45. But a booming post-war economy, consumer confidence, fresh designs from General Motors and some slick concepts from Ford helped push demand for the convertible through the 1950s to more than five per cent of all new car sales, its highest level on record.

Ford controlled much of the convertible market in the 1950s with its popular Thunderbird and Fairlane models. General Motors, meanwhile, was making a mark with its "hardtop" convertible design in the Cadillac Coupe de Ville and Buick Roadmaster. The hardtop convertibles were constructed with a fixed roof and not built with the manual top-off, top-on design. Convertible demand levels stayed at about six per cent of the automotive market through the 1960s, and right up until social events and economic failure ended the Glory Days and put the North American convertible on the endangered list. The carefree attitude of the 1950s and '60s gave way to the recessive '70s.

Healey Hundred
WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

'50s Thunderbird
WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Of course, the unmatched comfort of the traditional closed-air sedan will always keep the convertible in its isolated place among new car buyers, but the convenience of the metal folding top, for one, is helping to make it easier to justify what was once considered a frivolous second-car purchase. A convertible as a primary mode of transport? Yes, indeed, as manufacturers now merge somewhat sensible transportation and wind-in-your hair freedom into one vehicle.

The Saskatchewan Safety Council has numerous training programs available to both new and experienced riders. These programs deliver hands on experience with certified instructors on one of the country's best motorcycle training courses at the RCMP track in Regina, SK.

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You know what it is that you want so now it's just about how you are going to get it. If your plans are being held back by a lack of cash, what happens today and tomorrow will help. But ultimately, the effort must come from you.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Mercury joins the Sun in your sign today and your mood will be better. The next three weeks are potentially the best of the year for you, so take advantage of the opportunities that come your way.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Your feelings may be a bit fragile over the next 24 hours, so steer clear of people who are rude. Some days it is necessary to restrict yourself to your company.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Don't try to solve others' problems by yourself. Be generous, especially with time and sympathy, but recognize that the only way friends will solve their issues is by looking for them themselves.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Mercury, planet of the mind, crosses the career angle of your chart today, which means you will no longer be able to kid yourself about what is and is not possible.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is one of the best times of the year for you and it will get even better over the next few days as Mercury, your ruler, opens your mind to new possibilities.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Whatever it is that you fear, you need to put a name to it because only then will you be able to face it and conquer it. Most likely you have been worrying for no good reason.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
It may feel as if you have no control over what is going on in your life but that simply isn't true. You have, however, allowed people to dictate to you what you can and cannot do. It's time to make it clear that enough is enough.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
While everyone is running around and bumping into each other as if the end of the world is nigh, you will be the picture of tranquility. That may mean you have no idea what is going on but there are times when ignorance is OK.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Yours may not be the most flexible sign but it will pay you to make an effort to adapt today. You have a great deal going for you at the moment but to make the most of it, be less set in your ways.

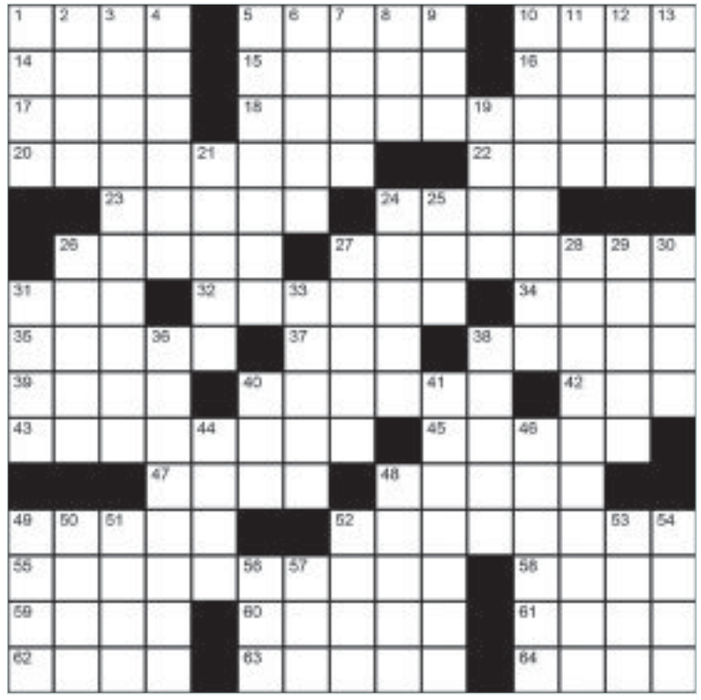
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will learn something over the next 24 hours but if you are smart, you will keep it to yourself for now. What you find out about a situation could be beneficial.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Sometimes it's good to get away from your duties and chores and lose yourself in activities you really enjoy. Such a time is now. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

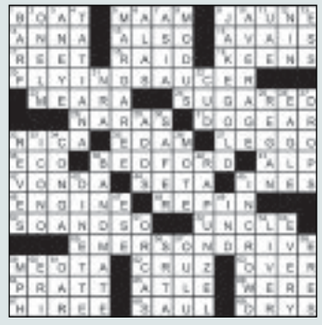
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Daytime/nighttime
5. Theatrical work, __ Godunov
10. Havana's locale
14. TV handyman Bob
15. Mediterranean vacation island
16. Kitchen's kiln kin
17. Scrapes, budget-wise
18. __ of Canada
20. Canadian brand of toilet paper
22. Gather
23. Ms. Skye of "Say Anything..." (1989), and namesakes
24. Painting subject (en francais) for Manet
26. Terra __
27. __ Desert (Located in the Yukon, it's endearingly called the world's smallest desert)
31. '_' __ in Toronto
32. Northern Ontario city, __ Lake
34. __-_-soup
35. Crows
37. Pac. opposite when looking at Canada
38. Canadian newsman Mr. Mansbridge
39. __ of the moment
40. Invitees
42. Monk's title
43. Artsy statesman of ancient Athens
45. Cosine or sine
47. Wuthering Heights expanse
48. Voyageur's transport
49. The __ of 2014
52. Frontman of Rush: 2 wds.
55. Rare baleen creature: 2 wds.
58. Inactive
59. Ms. Reid
60. Boring tool
61. Foster film
62. Songstress Sheryl
63. Lances
64. Steel shade

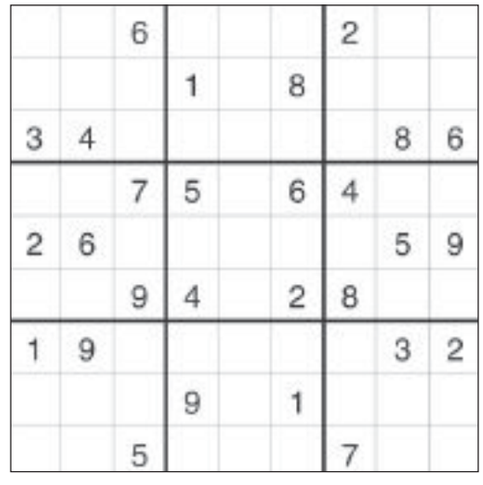
Down
1. "__ plaisir!" (Gladly, in Quebec)
2. "Grace Kelly" singer
3. Long-extinct marine reptile of ancient waters, such as of the Yukon
4. Team's sidelines cheers-leader
5. Important happening: 2 wds.
6. Some woodwinds
7. BC's Fraser, et al.
8. 'Special' suffix
9. Mediterranean isl. near Italy
10. The second 'C' of CIBC
11. Iris' place
12. Mr. Affleck's
13. Colony critters
19. Pusher-catching cop
21. Beginner bets
24. Sussex slammers
25. Mr. Linkletter
26. __ diem! (Seize the day!)
27. Quotes
28. Baseball position
29. 'I hope', to Caesar
30. Ms. Gilbert
31. Baking meas.
33. "Today" anchor Matt
36. Northern Alberta town
38. Mind your __ __ Qs
40. Mop & __ (Floor cleaner)
41. Canadian TV drama of 1996 to 2000 that viewers were 'invested' in watching
44. Haggler's concern
46. Considering, as an idea
48. Showbiz type
49. Federal org. concerning broadcasting
50. Beguiler
51. It means 'Soil'
52. Someone smitten's status
53. Addition __ (Canadian plus-size clothing chain)
54. Moray-like
56. Occurred
57. Beach structure

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

2	5	4	6	1	8	9	7	3
7	9	6	3	5	2	4	1	8
1	8	3	9	4	7	2	6	5
9	3	1	2	8	6	5	4	7
5	8	2	4	7	1	6	3	9
4	7	6	5	9	3	1	2	8
3	4	7	8	2	9	6	5	1
8	1	5	7	6	4	3	9	2
6	2	9	1	3	5	7	8	4

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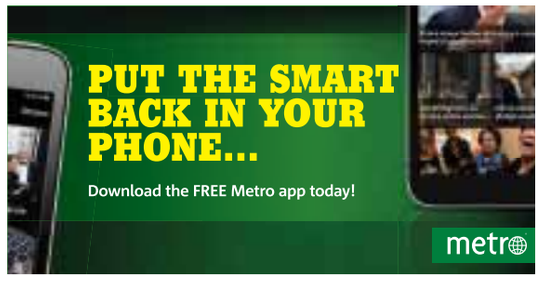

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Rosetown
Shaunavon
Swift Current
Wilkie
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